

# PRESS RELEASE

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## For Immediate Release

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### **MONROE MAN GETS 60 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR MANUFACTURING CHILD PORNOGRAPHY**

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced that Gregory Blum, 51, of Monroe, Wisconsin, was sentenced today by U.S. District Judge John C. Shabaz to 60 years in federal prison, without parole, for manufacturing child pornography. This was the highest possible sentence Blum could have received under federal law for the offense. Blum pleaded guilty to the charges on June 20, 2007.

Blum used his home video camera to record himself sexually assaulting three minor children (ages 3, 4 & 5). Blum also admitted to sexually assaulting a fourth child about twenty years ago, although he was never charged criminally. In addition to manufacturing child pornography, Blum possessed huge volumes of child pornography. In a search of his semi-truck in Menasha, Wisconsin, law enforcement recovered a laptop computer containing over 16,000 image files and more than 1000 videos depicting children engaged in sexually explicit conduct - many of which contained explicit depictions of children between two and ten being sexually assaulted.

In a search of his home in Monroe, Wisconsin, law enforcement recovered additional printed child pornography.

At the sentencing, Judge Shabaz said that the statutory maximum was the "only answer" in a case like this. United States Attorney Peterson praised the outstanding efforts of law enforcement in the case, commenting that through their diligence, "We were able to stop the active sexual molestation of three young children, and prevent other children from becoming victims."

The charges against Blum were the result of an investigation conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Investigation. The prosecution of the case has been handled by Assistant U.S. Attorney Meredith P. Duchemin.

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